

# ST. MARY PARISH

518 South 2nd Street; PO Box 847; Guttenberg, Iowa 52052

Newsletter: Apr 13, 2023 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ [www.maryicjoseph.org](http://www.maryicjoseph.org)

## LIVE THE LITURGY: Divine Mercy Sunday

My dear brethren, let us approach God in his throne of mercy and allow ourselves to be transformed by his love and grace so as to reach the goal to which he calls us: eternal life and happiness through holiness.

But let us not forget that while we have recourse to God's mercy, He also tells us:

*Be merciful as your heavenly Father is merciful.*

He wants us to be instruments of his love, compassion, forgiveness and mercy. And let us ask ourselves: Lord, am I merciful towards those who are in need of my help, patience, forgiveness, and compassion.

**To answer this question and transform it into reality, would be your personal task for this week.**

~ Fr. Rolly Arjonillo,  
[catholicstrivingforholiness.org](http://catholicstrivingforholiness.org)

### First Communion Sunday, April 16, 2023

Please keep our communicants in your prayers.

#### Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista, 8:30am

Katherine Breitbart  
Jase Ludovissy  
Chloe Ploessl



#### St. Mary, Guttenberg, 10am

Josie Aulwes, Mallory Greve,  
Brysen Hefel, Kade McGuine,  
Grace Mescher, Gabrielle Moser,  
Greyson Moser, Garrett Opperman,  
Huntley Schmelzer, Bensen Schultz,  
Tryce Sperfslage, Haydn Walters &  
Cole Westhoff

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever." [John 6:51](#)

### KC Pancakes & Sausage Breakfast

Drive-thru and Dine In; St. Mary Church

**Sunday, April 23, 8-11:30am**

Free will donation. Proceeds will go to  
Faith Formation



### Life Saver Weekend

Catholic Daughters will have a second collection the weekend of April 22 & 23 for victims of abuse.

**PARISH LIFE** will be hosting coffee, juice, milk and donuts on Sunday, **April 30** after Mass. Come and socialize with our faith community.

### BAPTISM INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD & OUR COMMUNITIES OF FAITH:



Saturday, April 15, at St. Mary, Guttenberg after Mass

#### **Eden Luella Rausch**

daughter of Phil & Brittany (Lucas) Rausch

Sunday, April 23, at St. Mary, Guttenberg after Mass

#### **Raelynn Rose Walke**

daughter of Brett & Alicia (Krones) Walke

Sunday, April 30 at St. Mary, Guttenberg after Mass

#### **Justus LaVerne Hoeger**

son of Miranda Hoeger

May you grow in age, knowledge & wisdom in the Lord!

### Mass Schedule: April 17 – April 23, 2023

**Mon., Apr 17:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Tues., Apr 18:** 8:30 A.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Vincent & Inez Hoeger/Amy Hoeger*

**Wed., Apr 19:** 8:30 A.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Ann Olinger & Kathleen Bockenstedt*

**Thur., Apr 20:** 10:00 A.M. – Guttenberg Care Center  
*Pete Davis & Leon Berns*

**Fri., Apr 21:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Sat., Apr 22:** Vigil of Third Sunday of Easter  
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*People of the Parish*  
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Lynne Finnegan & Steve Steger*

**Sun., Apr 23:** Third Sunday of Easter  
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista  
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass. *Live Streamed*  
*Vernon & Joyce Cherne*

## **GOSPEL REFLECTION: Celebrating the Easter Season**

by Suzanne Braddock

Do you truly believe in the resurrection of Jesus? Is it real to you? Or is it just part of your traditional celebration of the Easter holiday, tucked in there as the central event of a three day journey with Jesus as he surrenders to the Father's will?

The first reading lets us see how real the resurrection was to the early Christian community. "Awe came upon everyone." Now that word awe is overused as "isn't that meal awesome?" or "that movie was awesome." The definition of awe reveals a deeper truth. Awe is a feeling of reverential respect mixed with fear or wonder. The feeling one gets in the presence of something vast that challenges our understanding of the world.

Fear! Wonder! Wonder is defined as a feeling of surprise mingled with admiration caused by something beautiful, unexpected, unfamiliar or inexplicable. All these, when used to reference the resurrection from the dead, give new depth and meaning.

I walk through the three days of the Passion of Jesus, imagining I am present, trying to understand the feelings of Jesus as well as of his disciples, his family, his mother. It can be exhausting. I still struggle to make his resurrection real. It certainly challenges my understanding of the world. What helps me most is my perception of the merciful look in his eyes.

The gospel reading shows us the Face of Mercy. The resurrected Jesus, who was abandoned by his disciples, appears through the locked door in the room where they hid in fear with the greeting "Peace." And breathing on them, an echo of God's creation of Adam, says "receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." He has apparently forgiven those disciples their failures and made new men of them. And Thomas, who arrives a week later, unbelieving – a stand-in for many of us – is invited to believe by touching the very wounds we have all caused. My Lord and my God!

And blessed are we who believe even though we have not seen. My Lord and my God!

**The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy** Our Lord taught Blessed Faustina a prayer for mercy that she was to pray unceasingly: The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy. He told her that, if she prayed in this way, her prayers would have great power for the conversion of sinners, for peace for the dying, and even for controlling nature. We, too, can pray this chaplet, using ordinary rosary beads of five decades.

We begin with the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Apostles Creed.

Then on the large beads we pray: *Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.*

On the small beads we pray: *For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.*

And at the end, we pray three times: *Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.*

### **Women's Faith Sharing Group**

We are hoping to start a faith sharing women's group & are looking for anyone that may be interested in participating. Please join us **April 23th** after Mass for coffee/coffee cakes to learn more and we will decide the best day and time for future gatherings. We hope to see you there! Contact Jenn (Pfaffly) Glenis at 608-225-3018 or [Jennifer.glenis@gmail.com](mailto:Jennifer.glenis@gmail.com) or Jim Pfaffly at 563-880-9696 for questions or more information.

### **COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023:**

"Shine Jesus' Light"; June 12-16, 2023. Sponsored by the Living Water, United Methodist, St. Mary's Catholic, St. Paul Lutheran & St. John's Lutheran Churches. For all area children – Age 4 (by Sept. 15th 2022) through 6th Grade. Grandparents and others with children visiting during the week of VBS are invited to attend. **QUESTIONS OR TO VOLUNTEER, CALL ST. JOHN'S OFFICE @ 252-2355.**

Save the date: **Friday, May 12 at 6:30pm** for the Mother, Daughter, Friend banquet hosted by the United Methodist Church. A meal will be served and the program will feature a speaker from Phelps Farm. Please bring a wrapped small adult gift.

"It will be a time of fun, fellowship and finding joy."

### **A Stewardship Moment**

Jesus meets the need of each disciple. To the fearful in the upper room, He speaks words of peace. To doubting Thomas, He provides the tangible proof of His resurrection. What do I need to become His disciple? What do I have to share that might meet someone else's need?

### **Upcoming Parish Events . . . .**

Apr 19: Faith Formation/Youth Ministry, 6 and 6:15pm  
**Apr 22/23: Lifesaver Weekend; Proceeds to domestic abuse charities.**  
Apr 23: Women's Faith Sharing Mtg after Mass  
Apr 30: Coffee and Donuts after Mass  
May 2: CDA Meeting, Noon in Monona  
KC Meeting, 7:30pm  
May 3: Last Faith Formation Class & May Crowning; 6:30pm Mass/Family Dinner  
May 12: Mother/Daughter/Friend Banquet, 6:30pm, United Methodist Church  
June 4: Celebration of Fr. Bries' 50th Jubilee of Priesthood Ordination